



State Senator **NANCY CASSIS** *E-NEWS UPDATE*

Governor Signs Cassis Legislation to Protect Residents from Identity Theft

I am pleased to report the governor has signed into law legislation I sponsored and helped usher through the legislative process, which protects Michigan residents from identity theft, the fastest growing crime in our country. The laws expand the crime statute to help facilitate prosecutions and limit the use and dissemination of Social Security numbers and other personal information to protect the privacy of individuals.

The bill I sponsored creates the Social Security Number Privacy Act, a crucial tool in helping to protect against the misuse and abuse of a person's Social Security number.

Senate Bill 795, now Public Act 454, prohibits individuals, companies, government organizations such as schools and universities, and other legal entities from using more than four digits of a Social Security number displayed publicly, used as a primary account number, or displayed on membership and ID cards. It also prohibits those entities from sending anything through the mail on which an individual's Social Security number could be seen from outside the envelope.

Another important law in the package prohibits merchants from displaying more than the last four digits of a person's credit card number on receipts.

These measures are part of a landmark effort to stop the explosion of identity theft in Michigan, assist people in keeping their confidential personal information secure, and help victims get their good credit back.

With these new laws on the books, Michigan has some of the strongest protections against identity theft in the nation, and we can ensure that those who seek to misuse personal information are held accountable for the harm they do.

Contact Information:

The E-News Update by Senator Nancy Cassis is designed to provide residents and organizations with a periodic update of my activity in Lansing. If you have any questions or do not wish to receive this e-mail, please contact my office.

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